



Long Term Care NEWSLETTER

Indiana State Department of Health

ISDH Long Term Care
Newsletter Issue # 08-08
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Dr. Monroe's Prescription for April 2008

State Health Commissioner's R_x

Fight Addiction:

1. Watch for the signs and symptoms.
2. Seek professional help.
3. Advocate for early diagnosis and compassionate treatment.



Climate Change: **Our Health in the Balance**

National Public Health Week
April 7-13, 2008
www.nphw.org

Since 1996, the American Public Health Association has organized National Public Health Week and developed campaigns to educate the public, policy makers, and public health professionals about issues important to improving the public's health. The week of April 7-13, 2008 has been designated National Public Health Week. The theme for this year's National Public Health Week is "Climate Change: Our Health in the Balance".

Over the past year, the American public's concern about climate change has reached an unparalleled level. The media reports new scientific findings on a daily basis and local, state and national policy makers have made it clear that serious real climate effects are a matter of when, not if. By making climate change the theme for 2008, the public health community is changing how society addresses this unprecedented challenge.

The public health community can help make the connection between the way we lead our lives, our impact on the planet and the planet's impact on our health. By highlighting these links, we can help Americans make choices and lead lifestyles that are healthy for them, their families, their communities and the climate. Doing so will help communities prepare to manage and lessen the impacts of climate change.

There is a direct connection between climate change and the health of our nation today. Yet few Americans are aware of the very real consequences of climate change on the health of our communities, our families and our children.

The public health community has an important role to play in making the connection between the way we lead our lives, our impact on the planet, and the planet's impact on our health. During National Public Health Week 2008, the American Public Health Association encourages individuals, families and communities to change their daily behavior in five important ways.

MONDAY, APRIL 7: BE PREPARED
TUESDAY, APRIL 8: TRAVEL DIFFERENTLY
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9: EAT DIFFERENTLY
THURSDAY, APRIL 10: GREEN YOUR WORK
FRIDAY, APRIL 11: GREEN YOUR HOME

The work of our public health workers is vital to maintaining a healthy environment and improving the health of our citizens. The healthcare system is an important component of public health. Our health care facilities serve significant roles in promoting healthy behaviors, assisting in access to the healthcare system, and coordinating care between providers.

The Indiana State Department of Health wishes to take a moment to recognize the many contributions of health care facilities and professionals to the public health system. We thank each of the many public health professionals for their work and efforts towards improved health of our communities. During this National Public

Health Week, please take a few moments to recognize the accomplishment and contributions of the many dedicated healthcare professionals to the public health system.

For additional information and resources on National Public Health Week, see the American Public Health Association Web site at <http://www.nphw.org/nphw08/default.htm>.

Resident Assessment Protocol

The ISDH Division of Long Term Care received a request for clarification concerning the use of the Minimum Data Set (MDS) Section V pertaining to the Resident Assessment Protocol. The question was whether health care facilities still have to use the Resident Assessment Protocol summary. The ISDH requested clarification from the MDS panel as to this issue. The response to our inquiry was that no changes have been made to the process. The RAP summary is still required and must be completed for all comprehensive assessments.

The Resident Assessment Protocol (RAP) summary must be completed and maintained on the resident's record. This summary includes a column labeled "Location and Date of RAP Assessment Documentation". This column must contain the location of where the information related to the RAP summary can be found (i.e. Nursing notes).

On pages 4-23 and 4-24 of the MDS manual, you will find examples to help complete a RAP summary. Using a blank summary and stapling it to the resident's assessments or having no summary on the record is not an acceptable practice. For questions or concerns, contact: Gina Berkshire, RN, ISDH MDS Coordinator, at 317-233-4719 or gberkshire@isdh.IN.gov.

Reporting of Abuse, Neglect, or Misappropriation

There seems to be some confusion regarding reporting of Certified Nurse Aides (CNA) or Qualified Medication Aides (QMA) when abuse, neglect or misappropriation of resident's property or funds has been reported or is suspected. The reporting of these incidents is pursuant to the ISDH Unusual Occurrences Policy.

In order to report a CNA or QMA for abuse, neglect or misappropriation of a resident's property or funds, simply complete an incident report and submit the incident report to the Indiana State Department of Health like any other incident report. All reports regarding a CNA or QMA are reviewed and automatically referred to the nurse aide registry when applicable.

In reporting CNA or QMA issues, please make certain to add the CNA or QMA registry number on the incident report. If, at the time of reporting, a completed investigation has been conducted, the incident report may serve as both the initial and follow up report. If, at the time of reporting, the investigation is still in progress, please submit as an initial report keeping in mind that a follow up report should be submitted that includes a summary of the completed investigation. Telephone reporting and voice mail reporting are only considered to be initial reporting. Even if a CNA investigator should come to the facility to investigate the incident, a follow up report is still required if the original report did not include the summary of the completed investigation.

Announcement of 2nd Public Health and Medicine Summit

In June 2007 the Indiana State Department of Health conducted its first Public Health and Medicine Summit titled *Public Health and Medicine Day: The Power of Collaboration*. The conference was jointly sponsored by the ISDH and Indiana University School of Medicine for physicians, health officers, and key healthcare leaders. The conference fostered partnerships to provide tools and resources for a healthier Indiana. The agenda addressed how public health and medicine are interrelated, tobacco interventions in a clinical setting, preparedness, and the investigation of outbreaks. The Indiana State Department of Health has now announced its second Public Health and Medicine Summit.



[Click here](#) to find out more about the Public Health and Medicine Summit.

[Click here](#) for the Public Health and Medicine Summit agenda.

To register for the 2008 Public Health and Medicine Summit, [click here](#).



Thanks again to each of the health care facilities and public health professionals for their work and efforts towards improved health of our communities. Best wishes for National Public Health Week.

Terry Whitson
Assistant Commissioner
Indiana State Department of Health